**Shortfall in profit of MCL**

3209. SHRI MANMOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortfall in the profit of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of profit MCL has earned during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c)There has been a slight fall in the profits of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as compared to the profits earned in 1997-98. The profits earned by MCL during the last five years are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

| Year | Amount |
|---|---|
| 1995-96 | 336.06 |
| 1996-97 | 326.65 |
| 1997-98 | 654.11 |
| 1998-99 | 601.31 |
| 1999-2000 | 607.65 |

**Decontrolling prices of coal extracted by CIL and its subsidiaries**

†3210. SHRI BAL KAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fully decontrolled the prices of coal extracted by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, how the interests of the consumer would be protected; and

(c) whether the State Governments have got any benefit by the increased prices?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.